

SEPA IWG Teleconference Summary Tuesday, September 9, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attendance

Co-Leads:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Jim Lopez | King County |
| Jeannie Summerhays | Washington Department of Ecology |

Members and Alternates:

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Craig Cannett* | Chelan PUD |
| Sean Cryan | Mithun |
| Jennifer Dold | Bricklin, Newman, Dold, LLP |
| Anne Farr** | Port of Everett |
| Kari-lynn Frank | National Association of Industrial and Office Properties |
| Hilary Franz | Bainbridge City Council |
| Valerie Grigg Devis | Community, Trade, and Economic Development |
| T.C. Richmond | GordenDerr Attorneys at Law |
| Michael Robinson-Dorn | UW Law School |
| Carol Lee Roalkvam*** | Washington Department of Transportation |
| Tim Trohimovich | Futurewise |
| Tayloe Washburn | Foster Pepper |
| Jim Wilder | Jones & Stokes |

**Alternate for Greg Carrington, Chelan PUD*

***Alternate for John Mohr, Port of Everett*

****Alternate for Megan White, Washington Department of Transportation*

Absent:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Dick Settle | Foster Pepper |
| Jayson Antonoff | City of Seattle, Dept of Planning & Development |
| Greg Carrington | Chelan PUD (Alternate present) |
| Anthony Chavez | Weyerhaeuser |
| Connie Krueger | City of Leavenworth |
| Mark Kulaas | Douglas County |
| Dan McGrady | Vulcan |
| Bill Messenger | Washington Labor Council |
| John Mohr | Port of Everett (Alternate present) |
| David Troutt | Nisqually Tribe |
| Perry Weinberg | Sound Transit |
| Clay White | Stevens County |
| Megan White | Washington Department of Transportation (Alternate present) |

Others:

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Tom Beierle | Ross & Associates Environmental Consulting, Ltd. |
| Patty Betts | Washington Department of Natural Resources |
| Susan Drummond | Foster Pepper |
| Fred Greef | Washington Department of Natural Resources |

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Simon Kihia | Washington Department of Natural Resources |
| Matt Kuharic | King County |
| Karin Landsberg | Washington Department of Transportation |
| Brendan McFarland | Washington Department of Ecology |
| Annie Szvetcz | Washington Department of Ecology |

Background Documents:

Available online at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/2008CAT_iwg_sepa.htm

1. Summary of SEPA IWG “Bucket 3” ideas
2. Linking Threshold Determination to Statewide Goals (2 documents)
3. Project Emission Examples for Threshold Discussion

Agenda:

Update on Preparation for September CAT Meeting

Bucket 3: Incentives and Disincentives for Leveraging SEPA

- Review and discuss ideas for leveraging SEPA
- Identify ideas for further development by IWG

Threshold Determination: Comparing Percent and Volume-based Significance Standards

- Review material comparing standards and linking to state-wide greenhouse gas reduction goals
- Identify next steps for deciding on approach to threshold determination

Discussion Items and Key Issues:

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - 1.1. Tom Beierle, Ross & Associates, welcomed members and technical staff to the call and took a roll call.
 - 1.2. Tom reviewed the meeting objectives and agenda.
2. Update on Preparation for September CAT Meeting
 - 2.1. The SEPA IWG co-leads announced that they will present on progress of the SEPA IWG at the CAT meeting on September 18-19.
 - 2.2. Jeannie Summerhays offered that Ecology would produce an initial draft report for IWG member review and comment. She said the report would not be presented at the September 18-19 CAT meeting but would be presented at the October CAT meeting and would be discussed at the September 30 SEPA IWG meeting.
3. Bucket 3: Incentives and Disincentives for Leveraging SEPA
 - 3.1. Brenden McFarland presented a memo from the Leveraging SEPA subgroup listing six categories of incentive and disincentive types. Members of the subgroup presented the following categories:
 - 3.1.1. SEPA exemptions
 - 3.1.2. Upfront SEPA
 - 3.1.3. Mitigation

- 3.1.4. Disincentives
- 3.1.5. Regional planning
- 3.1.6. Funding
- 3.2. The group discussed the value of all ideas proposed by the subgroup. A member suggested that the group consider any implications from reducing categorical exemptions as an incentive.
- 3.3. The IWG responded favorably to the ideas presented. The subgroup agreed to develop more detail on 1) how the ideas would be implemented and 2) what the ideas would accomplished. The sub-group agreed to identify a shorter set of the most promising ideas from the longer list and present more detailed descriptions to the full group.
- 4. Threshold Determination: Comparing Percent and Volume-based Significance Standards
 - 4.1. Threshold Determination subgroup members presented a comparison table on the pros and cons of percentage-based versus volume-based significance standards. The IWG also discussed how to link significance standards to the state's ghg reduction goals.
 - 4.2. The Threshold Determination subgroup will meet to discuss the remaining issues, including safe harbor, and the comparison of percentage versus volume-base standards. The subgroup will report back to the full IWG group at the next meeting. The IWG will narrow down the options by September 30th for CAT review.
 - 4.3. Sean Cryan offered that Mithun could host the Threshold Determination meeting for those that could attend in person.
- 5. Meeting Wrap up and Next Steps
 - 5.1. Ecology staff will send a draft report to the IWG for their review and comment by September 23rd.
 - 5.2. The "Leveraging SEPA" subgroup will develop incentive ideas in more detail for the next IWG meeting.
 - 5.3. The Threshold Determination subgroup will meet to work through the ideas discussed and will report back to the IWG at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next SEPA IWG meeting will be an in-person meeting on September 30th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.